

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 10/718,442 Confirmation No. 9830  
Applicant : *Creamer, et al.*  
Filed : November 20, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 2141  
Examiner : Dharia, Rupal  
Docket No. : BOC9-2003-0055 (426)

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent Office of the document which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. An English translation of the cited Chinese patent was not available; however, a copy of corresponding European Patent No. 1 018 829 is attached.

Applicants submit that the present invention is patentable over the cited reference.

Submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove the listed document as a competent reference against the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date, or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits and, therefore, no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

Although no fee is believed to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Respectfully submitted,

AKERMAN SENTERFITT

Date: January 10, 2006

  
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| Substitute for form 1449/PTO   |   | <b>Complete if Known</b>                    |  |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   | <b>Application Number</b> 10/718,442        | <b>Filing Date</b> November 20, 2003               |
|  |   | <b>First Named Inventor</b> Creamer, et al. | <b>Art Unit</b> 2141                               |
|  |   | <b>Examiner Name</b> DHARIA, RUPAL          | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> BOC9-2003-0055 (426) |
| Sheet  | 1 | of  | 1  |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                                |  |   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>Or Relevant Figures Appear |
|                          |                       | CN 1260641   | 07/19/2000                     | MATSUSHITA   |   |
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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>4</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.18 if possible. <sup>7</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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